

Alabama Department of Human Resource Enhanced Transitional Living Services RFP 2022-100-09

Q1. Section 1.0 PROJECT OVERVIEW, Page 7, first sentence, "The Alabama Department of Human Resources is seeking qualified vendors to provide seventy-five (75) slots of Enhanced Transitional Living Services (ETLS) that are designed to bring the skill development and preparation offered through a Transitional Living Program (TLP) placement into whatever current placement a youth needing TLP services is residing."

Will the Department award the full 75 slots to only one vendor?

If slots will be awarded to more than one vendor, please provide the geographical breakdown and number of slots to be awarded in each geographical section.

R1. Services need to be available statewide. Information on geographical locations will be available upon awarding of the contract.

Q2. Section 3.4 SERVICE DELIVERY, Page 16, paragraph 4, "ETLS workers will provide at minimum two, 90-minute sessions each week on different days during the week, determined by the needs of the youth as defined in the ISP. The ETLS workers will accept up to 6 youth. The ETLS worker will use flexible work hours to meet the needs of the youth."

If slots are to be awarded regionally/geographically, will they be allocated so that staff can successfully meet the minimum requirements with a full 6-client caseload?

If response is yes, will slots be regionalized according to the county that holds the referred youth's case, or by the county where the youth is placed (if different)?

R2. Yes. Slots will be regionalized based on the county where the youth is placed in order that services are provided timely.

Q3. Section 3.6 CORE SERVICES, Page 17, Item I, "Assist in creating a behavior management plan for the child with the other members of the ISP team, if needed. All ETLS agencies must maintain staff that has expertise in the development of such plans. (DHR shall assume the responsibility of completing behavioral management plans on all youth that require them.)" and Section 3.7.2 ROLES OF IIHS WORKERS, Page 18, Item K, "The ETLS agency should assist in the development and monitoring of a behavior management plan for youth, if warranted."

Given the trauma history of most youth in foster care, many youths struggle with basic living skills and/or independent living skills, due to mental and/or behavioral issues, that need to be addressed before other assistance.

a. Will the youths referred by the Department under this RFP have been previously screened for mental health and/or behavioral health issues?



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In most cases the youth will have mental health and behavior pre-screenings, or assessments completed. In cases where vendors find that mental health screenings or assessments are needed, that recommendation should be made by the vendor and the Department will make the necessary referrals.

b. If (a) above is yes, will the previously screened youths receive appropriate treatment for identified needs from the Department before referral under this RFP, so that the required skills-based instruction provided by the vendor can be effective at the time services are provided?

The need for mental health screenings varies. It will not be a requirement but will be provided when needed.

- d. If (a) above is no, how will the Department support youth pre-screening and provision of any associated treatment necessary before referral so that the services to be provided by the vendor under this RFP can be effective?
- R3. Please review the response to the above associated question.
- Q4. SECTION 3.13 TRACKING, Page 18, sentence three, "Tracking for each youth served successfully by the ETLS provider must be for no less than twenty-four (24) months post closure."

Has DHR established expectations as to the number of contacts to be made during the tracking period or is that at the discretion of the vendor?

Tracking requirement should be met at the discretion of the vendor.

Will DHR Staff assist the vendor in locating clients in cases where they cannot be reached after their cases have been successfully closed?

- R4. Contact with youth should occur at least once per quarter, post successful completion. DHR will assist with contact when needed.
- Q5. Section 5.0 COST PROPOSAL, Page 24, "The daily rate is subject to approval by the Department and Medicaid." and, "All services billed as Medicaid Rehab services must be in compliance with Chapter 105 of the Medicaid Rehab Manual and are not to exceed the daily caps."

Is Medicaid billing mandatory for services under this RFP?

- a. If yes, please provide the Medicaid billing code(s) to be used.
- b. If yes, please provide the maximum amount per Medicaid slot to be billed.

If Medicaid billing is not mandatory, please provide the ceiling cost per slot (or details of scaled payment) that vendors may bill the Department.



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R5. As these services may not be considered a rehab service, purposed cost per slot would have to be provided by the respondent.

Q6. NO SECTION / INFORMATION NOT FOUND IN RFP DOCUMENT

Please provide the Department's definition and/or description of successful case closure.

Documented attainment of identified skill noted in the initial referral as the area of need IL skill(s) requiring attainment or improvement that has helped a youth prepare for living independently.

R6.

- Q7. Section 3.4, page 15. Service Delivery: Will referrals be made to the provider directly by the county department offices or will they come to the provider agency through state referrals as ILP referrals currently do?
- R7. Referrals for services will be made by the county offices.
- Q8. Section 3.4, page 15. Service Delivery:
 Will providers receive referrals from and serve specific regions of the state (as they do with IIHS services) or will they be expected to accept referrals and provide services throughout the state regardless of a provider's physical location?
- R8. Services must be provided statewide by one or in combination or multiple vendors.
- Q9. Would this contract be regional or State -wide?
- R9. The service must be available statewide. The contract can be either regional or statewide.